Please amend paragraph 30 as follows:

[30] FIG. 3 illustrates a cell block 310 in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. As shown in FIG. 3, cell block 310 is comprised of a two dimensional array of pixels 320. While not specifically shown, it is intended that halftone cell 210 and cell block 310 are similarly sized, such that pixel 320 is less than ½ the size of pixel 220. Since the size of the pixels are smaller, dot patterns printed using pixels from cell block 310 are much less perceptible than similarly-sized patterns using pixels from cell 210. Moreover, when yellow glyph marks using cell block 310 are printed on a white background at a density of approximately 2%, the pixels are not visible to the naked eye. For example, if each glyph consists of 3 yellow pixels at ± 45°, and each glyph is inside a plain box of size 12 x 12 pixels, the entire glyph block will remain below 2% average yellow, and thus be non-visible to the naked eye. Each yellow glyph is however detectable on a standard quality color scanner (e.g., 400 or 600 s.p.i.) In fact, each glyph mark is about the size of a comma in 2-pt font, and is therefore detectable by any copier that has good image quality.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for encoding digital data in a hardcopy rendering of an invisible image defined by at least one circularly asymmetric dot pattern, said method comprising:

modulating said dot pattern in accordance with said digital data; and

rendering said modulated dot pattern into a tiled halftone cell of predetermined visible color, size and pixel density on a recording medium, thereby producing said hardcopy rendering of the invisible image with said digital data encoded thereon.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined visible color is yellow.

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